

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hologram recording apparatus comprising:

    a laser source emitting laser beams;

    a diffraction control element for receiving a laser beam emitted from the laser source and controlling a diffraction of the received laser beam before letting the laser beam exit;

    a diffracted light component blocking element configured to block a predetermined diffracted light component in the diffracted light emitted from the diffraction control element;

    and

    a first condensing element for condensing a diffracted light component that has not been blocked by the diffracted light component blocking element onto a hologram recording medium, wherein

        the diffraction control element has a plurality of individual diffraction control elements that control the diffraction of the received laser beam independently from each other and the individual diffraction control elements have even numbers of phase control elements for controlling phase differences among outgoing light from each element so that the zero order diffracted light cancel each other, resulting in zero intensity, and

        the diffracted light component blocking element blocks ~~primary diffracted light or more in terms of absolute value by the phase control elements and blocks tertiary diffracted light or more in terms of an absolute value and allows secondary diffracted light in terms of an absolute value to pass~~ by the individual diffraction control element.

Claims 2-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The hologram recording apparatus according to

Claim 1, wherein

the phase control elements are ribbons that are driven to the up or down position alternately.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The hologram recording apparatus according to

Claim 7, wherein the phase control elements are displaced by an electrostatic force.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The hologram recording apparatus according to

Claim 1, wherein the first condensing element comprises a plurality of lenses.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The hologram recording apparatus according to

Claim 1, further comprising:

a light dividing element for dividing a laser beam emitted from the laser source into first and second light beams and causing the first light beam to enter the diffraction control element; and

a second condensing element for condensing the second light beam emitted from the light dividing element onto a spot on the hologram recording medium where a laser beam emitted from the second condensing element has been condensed.

Claim 11 (Original): The hologram recording apparatus according to Claim 10,

further comprising:

a light blocking element for blocking the first light beam emitted from the light dividing element; and

a light receiving element for receiving light emitted from the hologram recording medium on the basis of the laser beam converged onto the hologram recording medium by the second condensing element.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A hologram recording method comprising:

a diffraction control step for controlling a diffraction of a laser beam by a diffraction control element, before letting the laser beam exit;

a diffracted light component blocking step for blocking a predetermined diffracted light component in the diffracted light emitted in the diffraction control step; and

a condensing step for condensing a diffracted light component that has not been blocked in the diffracted light component blocking step onto a hologram recording medium, wherein

the diffraction control element has a plurality of individual diffraction control elements that control the diffraction of the received laser beam independently from each other and the individual diffraction control elements have even numbers of phase control elements for controlling phase differences among outgoing light from each element so that the zero order diffracted light cancel each other, resulting in zero intensity, and

the diffracted light component blocking element blocks primary diffracted light or more in terms of absolute value by the phase control elements and blocks tertiary diffracted light or more in terms of an absolute value and allows secondary diffracted light in terms of an absolute value to pass by the individual diffraction control elements.

Claims 13-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A hologram recording medium for recording data, as changes in refraction index of the recording medium, by using diffracted light obtained by blocking, with a diffracted light component blocking element, a predetermined diffracted light component in diffracted light emitted from a diffraction control element that-controls the diffraction of a laser beam before letting the laser beam exit, wherein

the diffraction control element has an even numbers of phase control elements for controlling phase differences among outgoing light from each element so that the zero order diffracted light cancel each other, resulting in zero intensity, and

the diffracted light component blocking element blocks tertiary diffracted light or more in terms of an absolute value and allows secondary diffracted light in terms of an absolute value to pass by the individual diffraction control elements.